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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: ELKE HELFTENBEIN-1 (PCT)
SERIAL NO.: 09/762,643 FILED: FEBRUARY 9, 2001
PCT NO.: PCT/EP99/05857 PCT FILED: AUGUST 12, 1999
TITLE: VESSEL FOR BLOOD SAMPLING

C/10
1/17
8/14/01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ATTN: BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Ass't. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On Page 1, above line 1, please insert the following
paragraphs:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

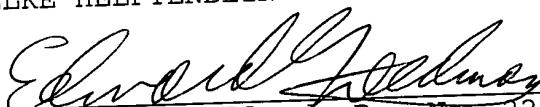
C
Applicant claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of GERMAN
Application No. 198 36 559.4 filed on August 12, 1998. Applicant
also claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/EP99/05857,
filed on August 12, 1999. The international application under
PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
ELKE HELFTENBEIN

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Date of Deposit July 31, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Ass't. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Lisa L. Vulpis